

THE FARMINGTON TIMES

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A. W. BRADSHAW, Editor
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THE NATION'S MOTTO:

"Save the Waste and Win the War."

100 MANGLED CHILDREN

A hundred Belgian children were recently taken across the continent, the last stretch of their journey from Europe to a Belgian settlement in Washington. The *Algona Advance*, a small Iowa paper, gives an interview with a young man who inspected the travelers.

The children, a hundred of them, ranged from babies to 12 or 13 years old, and all but one, a little boy, had been mutilated by command of Prussian soldiers. Most of the boys had their hands amputated, "so that they could never fire a gun against the Prussian armies." Many had lost an ear and a number their noses.

"And, most horrible of all, some of the little girls had had their breasts cut away, so that they might never be able to suckle a boy who could grow up to be a Belgian soldier and avenge the wrongs of his fatherland."

Americans cannot realize the frightful crimes against all civilization being committed by the Prussian armies until they see it with their own eyes.

"MEN OF AFFAIRS"

The Chicago Tribune of August 16th printed the following editorial:

"DIGGING INTO OUR POCKETS"

"Representative Kitchin announces it will be necessary to add another billion dollars to the pending revenue bill—which would send the skyrocketing total up to more than \$3,000,000,000. He says the United States will have to spend \$14,000,000,000 during the fiscal year, and he calls it 'chicken feed.' He speaks of getting the additional billion as one might say please pass the mustard. One would assume he lights his cigar with gold certificates.

"In discussing war taxation The Tribune does not wish to be understood as objecting to giving the government all the money it needs. We think the totals called for are probably inflated; we should be surprised if the appetite for pork had no part in the computations; but that is not the question at issue.

"What is vital now are the methods for raising these enormous sums. Mr. Kitchin votes for a revenue measure with his eyes shut but with his mouth open. The country would prefer having him shut his mouth and open his eyes. A little clear vision would enable the majority in Congress to perceive that their revenue program is radically wrong.

"Tax experts are agreed that the nation will have to contribute practically all its surplus to finance the war. They are also agreed that as a matter of theory it doesn't make much difference whether this surplus is obtained by the issuance of bonds or by taxation. But as a matter of practice they agree that heavy taxation is unwise.

"The psychological effect of taxation explains why public borrowing is preferable. If, as Mr. Kitchin says, we are going to spend \$14,000,000,000 during the fiscal year, it is obvious that most of the money will have to be borrowed anyway. There is no rhyme or reason in trying to raise an arbitrary 15 or 20 per cent of that amount by taxation. There is no peculiar virtue in a tax total of \$2,000,000,000 or \$3,000,000,000.

"Men of affairs have informed Congress they would support a revenue bill amounting to \$125,000,000. It might be possible to add another quarter of a billion dollars to this total without producing an injurious psychological effect. But who can doubt that the proposals of Mr. Kitchin are likely to produce the blackest kind of business depression?

"Wise counsels may not prevail in Congress. But elections are coming."

It first slurs Congressman Kitchin, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, and then proceeds to put up against his judgment the opinion of the "Men of Affairs" (unnamed) who have "informed Congress" that they would "support" a revenue bill of a billion and a quarter, "but who have not agreed to support a bill calling for two or three billion. In this respect the 'men of affairs' differ from the masses—the masses will support ANY revenue bill that Congress passes. The trouble with the 'men of affairs' is that they are not willing to bear their share of the burden. They want the expenses of the war raised by bond issue so that the debt will extend over generations—the poor finally paying it. That is just what the people do NOT want.

Those who make money out of war contracts ought to be willing to contribute liberally through excess profit taxes and income taxes. If soldiers give their lives, and the masses give of their savings, why not compel the 'men of affairs' to give a large part of their war profits?

W. J. BRYAN.

The soldier boys who are leaving today are among those who will make history and insure for all mankind—forevermore—a lasting and enduring peace. Such assurance is worth all that the war can cost, even though many thousands of lives may be sacrificed. For what nobler cause could one be called from this life than that for which Uncle Sam has entered the world war? But we are still hopeful that peace will be permanently declared even before the great army that is now being prepared is ready to sail for France. The strenuous training that the boys are now being put through, or preparing to enter upon, will not hurt them. In fact, it is just what many of them most need.

PUNCHY PARAGRAPHS FROM ROOT'S ADDRESS

A nation which declares war and goes on discussing whether it ought to have declared war or not is impotent, paralyzed, imbecile, and earns the contempt of mankind, and the certainty of humiliating defeat and subjection to foreign control.

After the decision in favor of war, the country has ranged itself; and the only issue left for the individual citizen is whether he is for or against his country. From that time on arguments against the war in which the country has engaged are enemy arguments.

Anybody who seeks, by argument, or otherwise, to stop the execution of the order sending troops to France and Belgium is simply trying to prevent the American government from carrying on the war successfully. He is aiding the enemies of his country, and if he understands what he is doing, he is a traitor at heart.

It is beyond doubt that many of the professed pacifists, the opponents of the war after the war has been entered upon, the men who were trying to stir up resistance to the draft, the men who are inciting strikes in the particular branches of production necessary for the supply of arms and all who continue to associate with them must come under the same condemnation as traitors to their country.

This war was begun and these crimes against humanity were done because Germany was following the instincts of the arrogant military caste which rules Prussia, to grasp the over-lordship of the civilized world and establish an empire in which she should play the part of ancient Rome.—From Elihu Root's recent Chicago speech.

AFTER THE WAR?

Yes, there are lots of things to be done after the war—but winning the war is the thing to consider now. Stand together and win.—Bryan's Commoner.

A BOUNTIFUL HARVEST

Each month the government report indicates a larger yield of the principal grain crops for 1917. In the September report the estimated corn yield is boosted to 3,248,000 bushels, a gain of nearly a quarter of a billion bushels since August 1. Missouri and Kansas represent the principal gains, most of the other corn States showing slight losses.

Wheat has gradually gone up, as the season advanced, until a total yield considerably in excess of last year, but below the average, is assured. A bumper crop of oats and satisfactory yields of nearly everything else are revealed.

It was only a few months ago that President Wilson called upon the farmers of the United States to exert themselves to the utmost for the relief of suffering humanity. No claim was made that the people of this country were in danger of starvation, as some critics of the administration have falsely represented, but that a very serious food shortage existed in Europe, and to a less extent in this country, there was no doubt.

The American farmer responded to the appeal. The season has been favorable and the earth has responded bounteously to the husbandman's toil. It is evident that 1917 is to go down history as a "good crop year" in the United States, and it is certain the news will be received with thanksgiving among our allies in Europe.

Just what a "good crop year" in this country means to the territory of which St. Louis is the center may be gained by a glance at some figures for which we are indebted to the current number of the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce Bulletin. We quote:

"Over 75 per cent of the food crop upon which President Wilson has declared 'rests the fate of the war and the fate of the nations' has been or is being produced in the Mississippi Valley, of which St. Louis is the largest city and the great logical central market."

"Waving corn fields about the doorstep of St. Louis are producing 2,650,000 bushels of corn, or 85 per cent of the United States crop. The valley produced approximately 615,280,000 bushels of wheat, or 76 per cent of the nation's crop for this year. Over 72 per cent of all live stock, 74 per cent of the cattle, 52 per cent of the sheep and 81 per cent of the hogs are raised in the valley, which is naturally St. Louis' own trade territory."

July quotations say the South will receive \$2,000,000,000 for this year's cotton crop.

"Surely a special issue of Liberty Bonds might be disposed of in this rich territory, without taxing its resources in the least.—Republi.

The more earnestly we desire peace the more loyally we should support the government as the best way to hasten peace!

The best way to keep from saying anything unpatriotic is to avoid thinking anything unpatriotic. The tongue is pretty sure to slip when the heart skips. Watch the heart and the head and the tongue will be all right.—Bryan's Commoner.

There are reasons for believing that the latest peace answer is intended largely for the relief of the blind in Germany.

MISSION OF A NEWSPAPER

Ever since men began to print things that other people did not like there has been more or less controversy concerning the function of the newspaper. The grafter has always declared that the newspaper is a public nuisance, the tyrant has contended that it is arrayed against the best interests of the State and the man with half-baked theories of life has contended that the press is the agent of the devil in overthrowing the morals of the community. Despite opposition, however, the press has won its way to freedom. Today it occupies an unique position. A very profound observer, in speaking of newspapers, said:

"What do we have the newspapers for? Why are they granted liberties under the Constitution? It is because they are needed as a part of the government. They are a part of the government; unrestrained, but valuable and useful for that very reason.

"A newspaper can print anything, even to erroneous statements. It can print anything except malicious lies. Its function in the government is to investigate, to pry into the business of every department of the government, and to criticize wherever it sees fit.

"It sometimes makes me out of patience with newspapers that all do not realize their function, that they are virtually a part of the government. It is their duty to find out evils wherever they exist and bring them to the attention of the responsible authorities. They are the great safeguard against corruption in public office.

"And how much better they can do this work than any grand jury! They have their men going about everywhere, nosing into everything. If there is anything wrong they will be sure to find it out. Some one will drop a hint. Then the facts are printed and they go immediately before the administrative officer who is responsible.

"If he does not act the remedy is still in the newspapers. They can bring the matter of the negligence of the persons to whom that office is responsible, and lastly they place all the facts before the people, who at anytime can regulate anything under our form of government.

"No, I am not one who believes that the function of the grand jury has passed away. I have the greatest faith in the value of a good grand jury. But it is not the function of a grand jury to investigate and criticize purely administrative matters. It will have all it can do to consider cases of crime brought before it."

The man who does not agree with these sentiments will very likely say at once: "Who said that? Some editor, very likely." But the man would be mistaken. It was not an editor who declared that newspapers are a part of the government. It was a lawyer, and, more than that, a lawyer who occupied a seat on the bench. The sentiment quoted is part of an opinion delivered from the bench by Judge Mayer Sulzberger of Philadelphia.

So far as we now recall, Sulzberger was the first judge to give judicial standing to the newspaper as a part of the government. The Philadelphia jurist simply discovered a fact that has been conceded by the general public in this country for many years. People who are inclined to disagree with the opinion that the newspapers are a part of the government should try to conjure up a vision of a republic in which there are no newspapers.

If good government is impossible without newspapers, then newspapers are a part of good government.—Publishers Auxiliary.

OBJECTORS TO DRAFT TO DIG ARMY GRAVES

Washington, September 17.—The War Department has found a use for the conscientious objectors caught in the army draft. They will be the army's "grave diggers." They will be attached to the armies in field, but will take no part in the actual fighting. Instead, theirs will be the grim business of cleaning up the battlefields after the fighting and of burying the dead. They will also be employed in minor labors about the camps.

A name has been devised for the grave-digging corps. It will be known as the "mercy squadron." It will sound much better in future generations, the War Department believes, to say that one's forbear was in the "mercy squadron" than that he was a grave digger.

In the task of cleaning up the battlefields much valuable equipment is recovered. This will be one of the "mercy squadron's" tasks.

The squadron also will be used in constructing rear lines. Persons who object to fighting on the ground of a well-defined religious belief were exempted from the draft, those who object to fighting on other grounds.

LICENSED TO MARRY

Sept. 6, Thomas Kelal and Marie Magura of Bonne Terre.

Sept. 8, John Jose of Flat River and Cordelia Adams of Esther.

Sept. 8, Samuel Crawford and Louise Krumminger of Doe Run.

Sept. 8, Edgar F. Walker and Dora E. Gasser of Flat River.

Sept. 13, Philip Pelick and Anna Brindozia of Bonne Terre.

Sept. 15, W. F. Oder of Farmington and Clara C. Bobs of Knob Lick Route 1.

Sept. 15, William Sweeney and Gladys Midgett of Mine La Motte.

Sept. 18, Ed Sirclum and Pearl Umfleet of Mine La Motte.

Sept. 18, Oscar James and Ella Ratley of Elvins.

Sept. 17, Charles Sensigras of Leadwood and Edna Boyle of Silver Springs.

Sept. 20, Edward H. Hove of River Range, Michigan, and Mary E. Jones of Farmington Route 6.

One can hardly blame the little hands of devoted canners throughout the land for talking about the fruits of victory.

Chancellor Michaelis is playing camouflage with Germany's war plane.

Houck Road to Be Rehabilitated

As The Times goes to press we are informed that work of improving the Houck railroad into Farmington will begin at once, and that when spring opens the work of graveling the railroad will commence. While we are unable, at this time, to get further particulars of the rehabilitation of this road, it seems to be apparent, from what we have heard, that a decision has been reached by Mr. Houck and associates to build up this road and put it in the running, which enterprise will meet with hearty approval and support here. This is one of the improvements that the recently organized Commercial Club has had its attention called to.

New Order of Things

Reports from Farmington indicate that there is a new order of things at Hospital No. 4. The first thing Dr. Eaton did, upon assuming charge, was to order more and better food for the patients. The public will heartily commend that act. What if it does cost more? The great State of Missouri has no desire to practice economy at the expense of that great number of unfortunates. We do know that the new system will cost more. It may be that the business ability of Dr. Eaton will cut the cost; but there is not a humane citizen in Missouri who will object to spending a few thousand dollars additional to bring an additional degree of happiness to the hundreds of patients under Dr. Eaton's charge.—Fredericktown Democrat-News.

AID GIVEN ALLIES CAN'T BE CALLED CHARITY, U. S. RED CROSS LEADER SAYS

Paris, September 17.—The Anglo-American Press Association gave a "Red Cross" luncheon today with leading representatives of the American, French and British Red Cross as guests.

In response to a toast, Maj. Grayson M. P. Murphy, head of the American Red Cross Commission to Europe, said it should not be forgotten that "in this great catastrophe the

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supreme function of the Red Cross is to help in every way possible to win the war.

"For three years our allies have fought our fight," said Maj. Murphy, "and it is only a pitiable, contemptible mind that would construe aid of this kind as charity."

Maj. Murphy pointed out that it will be some time yet before the American troops are ready for their

share in the conflict.

"In the meantime," he added, "it is the plain duty as well as the privilege of every American organization to do all it can to help the gallant nations to which our people owe so much. We are in France, not to create an obligation, but to endeavor to pay back some part of the debt which began to accumulate when our country was in its birth throes."

\$1.00

Pays for The Times a Whole Year!

Just think of getting as large a paper as this, with the great amount of reading matter—and in these days of soaring prices—for only \$1.00. Really it does not seem possible, does it?

But under our recently adopted "cash in advance" system, we hope to be able to hold the subscription price of The Times down to the exceedingly low price of \$1.00.

Under the old plan our subscription department was running behind, but under the new plan we hope to eliminate the previous shortage, and at least cause the subscription department to "break even".

But had the old plan been continued, of letting subscribers pay whenever they pleased, throughout the year, it would have been necessary to have raised the subscription price to at least \$1.50, by which plan the good subscribers would have paid for the bad ones.

By looking carefully after every paper that is sent out, and by seeing that it is paid for before it leaves this office, we hope to be able to keep the subscription price of The Times down to the minimum, even before the advent of present soaring prices.

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A. W. BRADSHAW, Editor and Publisher.